

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 03121 150847Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
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R 150822Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4268

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 3121

USDOC FOR OIM/SAD AND CAGNE

BEIRUT FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, XF, SY

SUBJ: PROPOSED MARYLAND STATE IOGA TRADE MISSION

REF: (A) STATE A-3831 OF MAY 28, 1975; (B) JIDDA 5574

1. REQUEST THAT MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INCLUDE DAMASCUS IN ITS PROPOSED JANUARY, 1976, MIDDLE EAST TRADE MISSION. MISSION FOCUS ON BUILDING, EQUIPPING, SERVICING, AND MANAGING HOSPITALS FITS SYRIAN NEEDS AS REFLECTED IN SOON-TO-BE-PUBLISHED FIVE YEAR PLAN. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PLAN WILL CALL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 16 NEW HOSPITALS (3250 BEDS) AT APPROXIMATE COST OF 68 MILLION DOLLARS. EXTENSIVE ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS OF EXISTING FACILITIES ALSO ENVISIONED.

2. MANY MEMBERS OF SYRIAN MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT ARE STRONGLY ORIENTED TOWARD US UNIVERSITY OF DAMASCUS MEDICAL SCHOOL USES US TEACHING METHODS, EQUIPMENT, TEXTS (IN ARABIC). MANY SYRIAN DOCTORS TRAINED IN UNCLASSIFIED

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US, FAMILIAR WITH US EQUIPMENT AND METHODS. THREE US

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FIRMS EXHIBITING AT ONGOING
DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR ARE DOING GOOD BUSINESS. WE
BELIEVE THAT SYRIAN INTEREST IN US EQUIPMENT TOGETHER
WITH HOSPITAL NEEDS OUTLINED IN NEXT FIVE YEAR PLAN
PRESENT MARYLAND TRADE MISSION WITH GOOD PROSPECTS IN
SYRIA.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE APPROPRIATE MARYLAND
STATE OFFICIALS OF ABOVE, AND SEND US THEIR NAMES AND
ADDRESSES, AS WELL AS FULL NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF
MARYLAND FIRMS PARTICIPATING IN MISSION, SO THAT WE
MAY FOLLOW-UP.

4. STATE AND/OR JIDDA: PLEASE PASS ABOVE INFORMATION TO
ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING FIRM HENNINGSON, DURHAM,
AND RICHARDSON (HD & R), WHICH SAUDIS HAVE
ASKED TO BID ON ABDUL AZIZ UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL
COMPLEX (REF B).
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DAMASC03121
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750282-0716
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750846/aaaabnfv.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE A-3831, 75 JIDDA 5574
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED MARYLAND STATE IOGA TRADE MISSION
TAGS: BEXP, XF, SY
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006